

April 1, 2016

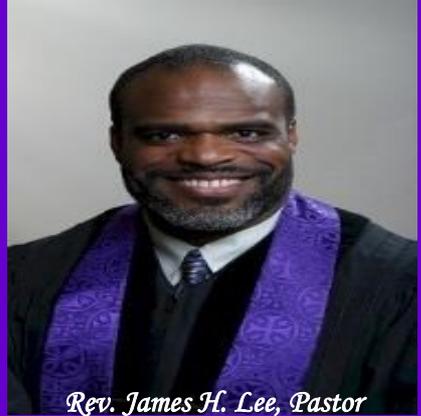


NCFA CONNE~~X~~ION!

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Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!

Word from Our Pastor



Rev. James H. Lee, Pastor

Dear NCFA Family and Friends

On Sunday we will celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Easter. For many it's anticlimactic since we realize that *"He is Risen. He is Risen indeed."* The Scriptures were fulfilled, and we are called to keep moving forward.

Last night I had the opportunity to reconnect with a number of Texas Lettermen/women, my old and new friends. One special reconnection was with Johnny "Lam" Jones. God seems to orchestrate our encounters. We met during his progression through one of the tough stages of his multiple myeloma, and I shared with him that I had been praying for him at the Longhorn Luncheons. He was encouraged to know that people who didn't know him cared about him. Well, last night during our conversation, Johnny, who is in remission, indicated that he can now jog and sprint. This Olympic champion struggled to walk, and he now can jog. I told him that God knew what I needed to hear. At a time when I struggle to breathe with oxygen, it seems like the thought of jogging again would never happen. God says otherwise through Johnny.

We are a people of faith; however, unbelief can creep into our thinking if we are not careful. A number of us are shell-shocked. The impact of the bombs and destruction going on around us leaves us either paralyzed or overwhelmed. In our Gospel reading on Sunday, Thomas responds to another disciple with disbelief. What I love about the text is that Jesus won't allow him to stay stuck, and he addresses Thomas in a way that Thomas will never forget. Where is your disbelief? Will you allow Jesus to speak to it and invite you to experience your pain through his hands, feet, and side?

Special thanks to:

- The Reverend George Holland who preached Easter Sunday at the early service.
- Our Youth Choir and Deacon Connie who led their Alleluia-filled singing of "He Is Risen."
- All who organized and supplied Easter eggs for the hunt.
- Nancy H. who brought Easter bonnets and hats for the women in the church to wear.
- Those who brought the juice and "hot cross buns" in honor of Jane Mack.
- Elder Nikkie who organized the beautiful Easter lilies in our sanctuary so that we could honor those we love.

Please join us for worship this Sunday at 8:30am and 10:15am.

God Bless You All

Pastor James H. Lee

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STEPPING UP



**Thinking with Christ's Mind
Loving with Christ's Heart
Serving with Christ's Hands**

Featured below are just some of the areas within NCF where your time, talents, or treasures are currently encouraged:

* CHILDREN & YOUTH *

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL'S "SURF SHACK" – June 13-17

The kickstart Beach Party-themed Picnic is Sunday, June 12th, and the week will culminate with a June 19th VBS/Father's Day celebration during our worship service. Help is needed NOW and LATER!!

- (1) Teachers and helpers are needed in the Nursery and Church School.
- (2) Building props and preparing crafts will begin soon.
- (3) Volunteers willing to support a fantastic VBS experience are happily encouraged to join the C&Y team.

Contacts:

Elder Danita Nelson, atinad787@gmail.com;
Elder Randy Mojica, mothachozen@gmail.com

◆ CARING AND SHARING *

One of our members needs weekly rides to church, just one way. Can you help occasionally?

Contacts:

Deacon Scott Phillips, scotteric@gmail.com
Carol Saddington, saddington@gmail.com

◆ WORSHIP TEAM *

Extra hands and voices needed at this time:

1. Worship Preparation

Contact: Tim Lenz, running4mexfood@aol.com

2. Communion Preparation

Contact: Nancy Harris, mousiemama51@yahoo.com

3. Ushers

Contact: Elder Matthew Aldas, matthewaldas@icloud.com

4. Audio-Visual Assistance

Contact: Elder Robert Booth, rpbooth66@gmail.com

5. Music—Come sing with our Psalm 150 Praise Team

Rehearse at 9:45am before worship.
Soloists welcome, please speak with Pastor Lee

Contacts:

Rev. Bill Harris, revbill66@gmail.com
Deacon Jimmy Bohn, jimmy_bohn@hotmail.com

6. After-worship - assorted helpful things

Contact : Elder Matthew, matthewaldas@icloud.com

7. Early Service - Now at 8:30am, Fellowship Hall

Ask how you can help:

Contact : Rev. Trish, geotriholland@yahoo.com

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THE HISPANIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION &
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT GROUP



OF
AUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WHICH LIVES MATTER? HESED LECTURES 2016



FRIDAY KEYNOTE

DR. JOSÉ ANGEL GUTIÉRREZ

PROFESSOR

POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-ARLINGTON
ARLINGTON, TEXAS



SATURDAY KEYNOTE

REV. WIL GAFNEY, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF

HEBREW BIBLE

BRITE DIVINITY SCHOOL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Friday April 1st - Saturday April 2nd 2016
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
100 E.27th Austin, Texas 78705

With Workshops Focusing on

IMMIGRATION

BLACK LIVES MATTER

GENTRIFICATION

ALLYSHIP

To Register Please Visit: www.austinseminary.edu/hesed

For More Info :

Call (512) 404-4868 Email: Hesed@student.austinseminary.edu

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- ⇒ **When you are going ‘through the valley of the shadow of death,’ remember that the shadow of a barking dog can’t bite you. For those who belong to Him, Christ has reduced death to a shadow.**
- ⇒ **Thank you to NCF friends who have helped Kimberly this past week. Continue to lift her up for recovery and healing. Lift up stress relief for all while Jimmy is out of town for training.**
- ⇒ **Praise for Ben’s mother being able to attend Easter worship. Lift up Ben’s sons and families as they travel to Austin to celebrate Easter.**
- ⇒ **Lift up Matthew’s aunt as she undergoes medical tests for a lesion on one lung and fluid on the other. Lift up family members as they love and care for her.**
- ⇒ **Lift up Melissa as she grieves the death of her close friend Evelyn.**
- ⇒ **Praise for improving health for Caly’s mother Altagracia—this will be her last week of wound care. Praise for Caly’s friend Evelyn being in worship today.**
- ⇒ **Praise for Trish’s friend Sarah—a past youth leader at Mo-Ranch—being in worship today.**
- ⇒ **Lift up Lydia and her family as they try to encourage and sustain her brother who seems to be giving up.**
- ⇒ **Lift up Saul’s dog to stop running out of the house and into the street risking getting hit by a car.**
- ⇒ **Praise for Nikkie and Lee being able to spend time with Dad/ Grandfather last weekend. Praise for guidance from the Houston pastor advising his congregation to let their hearts be like Christ’s and to read their Bibles with the intent to believe it, obey it, and share it.**
- ⇒ **Lift up a Workers2Work advisor experiencing complications from cancer surgery.**

The Lord is near to
all who call on him,
to all who call on
him in truth.

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**N
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F
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SUNDAY MORNINGS

NCFA Sunday Schedule

8:30am - Worship Service
1507 Wilshire Blvd.

10:15am - Worship Service
1507 Wilshire Blvd.
9am Adult Sunday School
10am Fellowship
10:45am - Children's Church



NCEFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 8:30am -- Wilshire Blvd.

Come rise and shine with us
at our 8:30am service
where we glorify God
through the Word, Prayer, Hymns,
and Communion.

1507 Wilshire Blvd.

In the words of Phillips, Craig & Dean,
"Come, just as you are, to worship."
All are welcome to this traditional,
intimate style of worshipping our Lord.

NCEFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:15am

We would love to have you and your family come share in the CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS!

We are worshipping in the Fellowship Hall of Genesis Presbyterian Church on the Wilshire Campus starting at 10:15 a.m.



New Covenant Fellowship of Austin PC(U.S.A.) is a racially diverse community informed by the Bible, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and motivated to share God's love with all. In response to God's love, we are called to equip disciples to faithfully serve, to encourage seekers to joyfully commit, and to implore all to worship our Lord, as we love our neighbors, grow in grace, and live by faith.

JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS

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- 1st Matthew Castilleja
- 2nd Justin Wallace
- 4th Gemma Munoz
- 6th Jhaliah J'nae Edwards
Alida Tallman
- 11th Kayla Zajicek
- 13th Abigail Iris Longino
- 15th J.T. Longino
Abraham Agbottah
- 16th Kofi Vida-Torku
- 18th Aquanetta Hicks
- 22nd Wonho Shin
- 24th Lucy Oglesby
- 25th Angel Mojica
Lydia Marion
- 27th Saul Cortez

Session Members

- *Rev. James Lee
Pastor/Moderator
- *Elder Kathy Smith
Clerk of Session
- *Rev. Oliver Smith
Administration & Personnel
- *Elder Bill Harris
Buildings & Grounds
- *Elder Randy Mojica
Children and Youth
- *Elder Ben Hooks
Discipleship & Men's/
Women's Ministry
- *Elder Mary Jo Mojica
Finance & Stewardship
- *Elder Robert Booth
Congregational Life/
Lay Ministry
- *Elder Vernon Bailey
Missions/Evangelism
- *Elder Matthew Aldas
Worship & Membership

Deacons

- Kathryn Aldas
- Ashley Phillips
- Scott Phillips
- Carol Saddington, Chair
- Cathy Trifiro
- Roxann Vallejo

April 2016

- 3rd 2nd Sunday after Easter
8:30am Early Worship at Wilshire
Rev. Trish Holland, preaching
9-10am Adult Sunday School
9:45m Psalm 150 Praise
Team Rehearsal
10:15am Worship at Wilshire Blvd.
Pastor James Lee, preaching
Sunday School Ages 3-5
(Rm. 1); Grades 1-5 (Rm. 7)
- 5th 6:30pm Men's Ministry Dinner,
7pm Study
- 6th 6:30pm Fellowship Dinner
7:00pm Ministry Meetings
- 7th 6:30pm-Diabetes Class
- 10th 3rd Sunday after Easter
8:30am Early Worship at Wilshire
Deacon Lucy Oglesby, preaching
9-10am Adult Sunday School
9:45am Psalm 150 Praise
Team Rehearsal
10:15am Worship at Wilshire Blvd.
Pastor James Lee, preaching
Sunday School Ages 3-5
(Rm. 1); Grades 1-5 (Rm. 7)
12:15pm Deacon Meeting

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NEW COVENANT FELLOWSHIP PICTURE DIRECTORY

Please come and be recognized as part of the New Covenant Fellowship Church Family by having your photograph taken any Sunday before or after worship by appointment with Oliver.

Signup sheet on back table each Sunday or contact Oliver at mmoesmith@aol.com

Free Appointments

Free-Will Offering for Portrait Packages



NEW COVENANT FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTIN
DIABETES EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION

MARCH 31, 2016 THRU MAY 5, 2016

6:30 – 8 PM

APRIL 28TH AND MAY 5TH CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON CAMPUS, EXACT LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

**NCFA – FELLOWSHIP HALL
1507 WILSHIRE BLVD., AUSTIN - 78722**

INSTRUCTOR:
CALY FERNANDEZ, CHWI/CERTIFIED DIABETES INSTRUCTOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
CALY FERNANDEZ AT CALYFLOWER2020@YAHOO.COM

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Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

Corinthians 15:12-28

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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My sermon title for today is *“Hope in the Midst of Despair.”* Folks may be thinking, “James, we don’t need a pop psychologist; we’re okay.” And then I would say, “I’m okay, you’re okay...right, we’re okay.” Well, we are okay, but we’re okay because of our Lord and our God. We are okay because we are in community with each other and we have the support of one another. But there are times when we find ourselves saying, “I’m *not* okay.” And it’s not okay for us to be alone and to find ourselves in a place where we can’t get up, where we can’t smile, and it seems as though our energies are gone. And that can happen to Christians; can I get an “Amen”? I say that because for so long it was that if we experienced some of these emotions, then it would be a matter of questioning of your faith, instead of recognizing that it’s a real process of life and that we’re not always going to be high; we’re going to have some lows. And then you’re up and you’re down.

There is power in today’s text and in this wonderful day that it is, and what makes it so special is that when you go from believing in someone, when you go from believing in something, and then have that something right before your very eyes be taken away from you, that can break your heart...that can make you lose hope...that can put you in a place of despair. But our hope is in Jesus Christ. Our hope is in that he has risen. *He has risen indeed!* And that the Lord abides with you and me. And that is our hope.

I wanted to lift up fear because fear seems to be something that’s driving more and more of us into places of isolation, places of anger, and places of fighting, trying to survive, and even in some ways pushing away and isolating. Fear is real. Amen? We’ve heard the acronym that says “FEAR—False Evidence Appearing Real.” And I lift that up because 10% of the things that we actually are afraid of will actually occur. So 90% of the time we’re afraid of something that will not happen. And so we’re encouraged to walk by faith or to experience courage even in the midst of fear. Fear.

Mary goes to the tomb so that she can go and continue to do the preparation for Jesus. And she’s there and the tomb is empty. She runs back to find the other disciples. There’s a fear. There’s a fear that the same people who killed him are the same people who’ve taken his body away. And you may say, “Well, what good is that?” Well, if that were the case, then they would have a way of discounting his ministry and the work that he has done. Fear was so within her that she had not even remembered that he said he was going to be raised from the dead and that he was the resurrection and the life. Fear. Fear is real.

Fear can be fear of the things that we see. Fear can be of the things that we can’t see, of the things that we have lost, and of things that we fear losing. I laughed when I watched the kids go out among you and share the oil vials, and I remarked they were like John and Peter. If you read the text when she ran to get them, they were fearful of one outrunning the other. And so they ran together as you can see in the texts... and the one outran the other. Sometimes we’re so caught up in competing with each other or being outdone by each other that even that gets in the way.

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I really try to emphasize with couples that when you have become one, there is hurt and pain every time there is competition in the relationship. Hurt and pain. Why? Because when you win, the other one loses and y'all lose. There's always hurt and pain when there's competition. God did not call us to compete but to complement. That's how it is supposed to be in the church—not to compete but to complement. The three that were a part of Jesus' team were there to help him. They were part of the core to complement him. But fear can get in the way. It can get in the way.

Fear can also shut us down so we don't think. They got to the tomb, and they looked inside, and each had a different response. Mary's response is she remained and cried. Is that all right? Is it all right for us to cry? Yes! There are so many who are just bottled up with stuff. It's okay to cry. They are feelings; they are emotions. And God has given us these feelings so that we can know that we're indeed human. Peter has a different response, you know; he just observed. And then we hear that John had a different response. He came in, he looked, and he what? *He believed*. So we have fear and now we have faith.

Faith is not something we can always see. But it is something that we do because we believe as if we were able to see it happening. That's why I always try to encourage us to see things: See the Divine amongst the dung. See the good in midst of the bad so that it will motivate you to continue to go forth. Do you know that whatever you look for you will find? Whatever you look for you will find. If you're looking for something bad in somebody who's good, guess what: You'll find it. If you're looking for a bad situation to come out of a situation, you will find it. But I dare you to flip the script and look for something good. Look for something great. Look for something Divine. Even in the midst of these situations, how is that John could have faith? See the remnants and yet have faith? I don't know, but he did.

How is it that your faith has brought you to this place? Some of us can say, "I remember that day..." and others will say, "It is as if we have been on this journey all my life, but I don't know where it began—though I definitely know where it is going to end!" You know, if there crisis in your life, I pray that you will find Christ there in those moments and that your faith may abound. Amen?

When Mary does cry, she does express her feelings; and lo and behold, who does she meet up with? Jesus. The Lord is faithful. ***Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. (Psalm 30:5)*** The faithfulness of God is that God will make a way to let you know that you are not alone, that God did not forsake us.

I've had friends who say, "You know what? Every time it is that I'm in a crisis, I will see a dove, even when I'm about to give up hope." Someone else will say, "I see a little bluebird." Someone else says, "I have a flutter in my heart." But when you're in those moments, look for signs that God indeed is present and with you and hasn't left you nor forsaken you. I remember when Robin Williams was in the movie *"Patch Adams"* where he was on a mountainside and was about to give up hope. And when he was about to give up hope, a butterfly landed as a symbol of grace, a symbol of life, a symbol of hope to this one who was in despair. God will let you know that you are not alone should you really, really want to know.

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I continue to love *“The Lion King”* and the moments that Simba had as he was in that valley place—for him, that dark place. As he cries up to his father, he says, “You said you would always be there for me!” Why? Because he didn’t experience it at that time. Why? Because he was in a place of transitioning from where he needed to be and where he was. Nala had already come and said, “What are you doing here? Scar has taken over; there is a lot of stuff that’s happening; you have a responsibility...and you’re here?” And he says “Hakuna Matata.” “Hakuna Ma-what??!” It means “No Worries.” And when he cried out, we’d hear from the imageries—and no, I’m not getting into all of that—but all I want us to know is we hear the voice of Mufasa say, “Remember who you are.” I want us to remember who we are: *We are the children of the Most High God, Amen?!*

I want us to remember who we are: We are fearfully and wonderfully made. I want us to remember who we are: We are resurrection people. I want us to remember who we are: Even when we find ourselves in the valley of the shadow of death, we don’t have to fear. Why? Because our Lord our God is with us. Remember who we are.

Mary, when she is in crisis, cries out, and she hears the voice. And what does she say, she says *Rabbouni*. She recognized his voice, and when she did, she wanted to grab hold of him. But he says not yet, ***“I have not yet ascended to the Father.”*** And there are things we’re trying to hold onto, and the Lord is saying not yet, that’s not going to give you the life that you think you need. The one that you really need is when it is in the Master’s hand, and then it is there for your best good.

Yes, I was grateful for that encounter because that encounter was the beginning of Jesus letting her know that he has been resurrected. But also as he sends her back, he says to the others ***“He’s up, He has risen, He’s not dead. He’s not dead. And the promise has been fulfilled. The promise has been fulfilled.”*** And so with that then they were able to have faith.

I had the young ladies read for us today the *Corinthians* text, and it is so very important because if Christ was not raised from the dead, it says our faith is futile. It means we’re just here to just be here. And we’re not. We’re here worshipping God. We’re here learning so that our faith can be rekindled. We’re here as we worship together. Scriptures say that God inhabits the praises of people. God is here. It also says do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together. Why? So that we can encourage each other even in those tough times. But I just needed us to hear that because there is a point where one might say there is no God. There is a question that He’s just like anyone else. And the difference is that he was raised and our faith is not futile.

Here’s the other piece that is so very important: ¹⁶***For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.*** ¹⁷***If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.*** ¹⁸***Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.*** Ughhh. Our sins have been *forgiven!* Can I get an Amen? Our faith is not futile! Can I get an Amen?!

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When you leave, I want us to remember what I shared with folks on Good Friday. On Good Friday Jesus was such a finisher that he says to one, ***“Here, your mother.”*** And he says to a mother, ***“Here, your son.”*** And she was taken care of. Jesus was so much a finisher that even when he’s on the cross and one wants to talk trash to him and the other one defends him, saying, ***“We are the ones who have done wrong. This man has done no wrong, he is innocent.”*** And Jesus says, ***“This day you will be with me in paradise.”*** Jesus is such a finisher that when everybody was down there talking trash like ***“You saved others; save yourself”*** and ***“You say you’re the Messiah, come on”***—what does he say? ***“Forgive them for they know not what they do.”*** He’s a finisher.

Why is that important? Because there are going to be some people you’re going to have to forgive, not for their sake but for your sake. They will never come to you yet you’ll be holding onto something. But release it in the same way that our Savior said ***“Forgive them for they know not what they are doing.”*** “Yes, they do!” On one level they do, but to the depth of where they are and spiritually and emotionally where they are, they do not.

But the other part that is so very important is that there on the cross, there with the nails in his feet and in his hands in a place where he could barely breathe, he knows that it’s coming to a place where his bones are going to have to be broken if he does not finish this. And some of you might remember he says, ***“No man takes my life, but I lay it down and pick it up again.” (John 10:18) They didn’t kill our Savior; He died for us.*** Some may ask what would have happened if they broke his legs? Well, in that position, the person is still able to breathe, and if they broke the legs, it would kill him because he would not be able to breathe. ***And our Jesus is such a finisher*** that he gave up his life, and when he did, he says, ***“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”*** Because he knows that God is trustworthy. He’s a finisher. And God is faithful. But the other part is he says ***“It is finished.”*** Just to let you know that he has all the authority in Heaven and Earth in his hands. Amen?

And because he said ***“It’s finished,”*** there is some foolishness that you’re going to be dealing with in life, and guess what you’re supposed to say to it? ***“It is finished.”*** Someone may say, “You know you’re that kind of a person... You know you did that...” ***“No—it is finished.”*** “What do you mean it is finished?” ***“I have been forgiven and it is finished.”*** “Well, you’re supposed to do such ’n such...” ***“No, it is finished.”*** “What do you mean?” ***“I’m not going to be controlled by shame or guilt. That game is over; it is finished. I’m going to walk by faith and mess up by faith and not be paralyzed by fear. Because it is finished. It is finished. I finally realize I’m not perfect. Have you realized it yet? Finally realized I can’t do it on my own. Have you realized it yet? Finally realized we need other people.”***

Have you realized it yet? When the facade is over and you realize it is finished, then you can fully live. Amen? And we can live because he lives. Amen? He is risen. He is risen indeed!

Let’s pray:

*God, we thank you and praise you for our time together. We thank you for your Word. We thank you for the reminder that in **Corinthians** they did proclaim Christ to be risen so that again we would know that our faith is not futile but it is real. We thank you that Christ did come to his disciples so that they may continue to have faith after they saw such a traumatic situation that would have brought them into a place of despair. And God, we thank you that you allow people who are faithful in living out their faith to walk even in fear sometimes, to be courageous people and go forth like Mary did. And Lord, we’re thankful that fear is not the end, that we can be a people who can have faith even in the midst of fear. Lord, we thank you. We thank you for this day so that we can say like Jesus said, **“It is finished. I am going to live.”** Because he lives, I can*

Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!



We Care Kits

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” 1 Peter 3:15

We are currently accepting the following donations

Food/Drink Items:

- Granola Bars, Trail mix, or peanut butter and crackers
- Vienna sausage – 5 ounce size cans
- Water bottles – 8 ounce size

Hygiene/Personal Items:

- Travel Size Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Travel size hand sanitizer or hotel size bar soap
- Men’s size small crew ankle length white or black socks

Quart size freezer bags

Please note: this is a smaller kit with fewer items.

All donated items should be placed in the donations box located on the back table by the AV equipment. If you have any questions, please email me: calyflower2020@yahoo.com or call me at (512) 228-4712.